

# PENICUIK SILVER BAND

(Established 1835)



Friends of Penicuik Silver Band Newsletter  
ISSUE No 9 – May 2008

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## WELCOME FRIENDS



The band has finally thawed out after a busy Christmas period of busking and carolling. Many band members have requested an official winter uniform to be purchased comprising of Long Johns and Thermal socks. The committee has agreed to this request, however it was minuted that band members were responsible for their own laundry and upkeep of their new uniform!

The band would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who kindly filled our collecting cans with donations, or indeed bribes to stop us playing Jingle Bells. Either way, your financial gesture was greatly appreciated.

## SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March the band travelled to Glenrothes to compete in the annual Scottish Brass Band Championships. This years contest piece was entitled "Four Cities Symphony" which was composed by Rodney Newton. Each movement musically depicts a different city across the world – London, Paris, Rome and Moscow.



The band gave an excellent performance from start to finish and was placed a respectable 4<sup>th</sup> out of the 9 contesting bands in our section. The winning Fourth Section bands attending the Nationals in Harrogate later this year will be Renfrew Burgh and Irvine & Dreghorn.

**Scottish Charity Number – SC 031142**

**Supported by Midlothian Council and the Scottish Arts Council**

## PLAYER PROFILE

### James Peebles



This month's profile segment is dedicated to James Peebles, or Jim as he is known to his friends.

Jim is the bands trusty Eb Bass player and librarian of many years.

Jim was born October 1949 and as a local lad attended both Cuiken Primary and Penicuik High School.

On leaving school Jim had the option of joining the Royal Marines Band or starting a career with the then British Railways.

Jim decided to follow his passion for trains and can still be found working hard at Waverley Station. Jim's passion for railways has even filtered through to his choice of watering hole. Penicuik's Railway Tavern manager would like to thank Jim for his many years of loyal business and hopes that he will continue to drink the Guinness barrel dry for many years to come!

Jim first joined the Band in the late 50s, encouraged by his father Charlie Peebles who was already a long-term member. Jim's initial brass instrument was the trombone on which he was later to sit and pass his music 'O' Grade. From trombone he matured onto the baritone and soon got cornered into playing the "Am no playin' that" instrument, the Eb Bass!

Well Jim is *still* playing that instrument and is unlikely to be allowed to play anything else again!

Jim's banding ambition is to emulate his 'old man' and win the 4<sup>th</sup> division Scottish

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championships. But then again, Jim also tells me that he'd like to see Hibernian win the Scottish Cup. Let us hope that one of his dreams at least comes true!

With 50 years of banding service, Jim is one of Penicuik's longest serving members, who not only represents the band but works hard behind the scenes.

For many years Jim has been the band librarian, which means that he's responsible for organising and filing all the music we play. After a concert Jim's living room floor soon becomes submerged in sheet music, but Jim doesn't mind as it saves him vacuuming.

In addition to this, Jim is the "secret" author of our monthly column in the Town Crier. If you are an avid reader of the Crier you will know that Jim loves to irritate the local pipe band by mentioning how happy he would be if their bagpipes produced silent music!

The Band would like to publicly thank Jim for his hard work and devotion to the Band, and we hope that Jim continues to lead the bass section for many more musical years to come.

## **WELCOME BACK!**

After their small sabbatical, the Band would like to welcome back Peter and Katherine Hawkins.



Katherine has once again picked up and dusted off her cornet after 30 years in its case.

Peter, the bands former principal cornet, has now taken up the challenge of playing the euphonium and is successfully leading his section as principal.

## SURPRISE CONCERT



Jack Forrest will soon be celebrating his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday this and the band is commemorating this by holding a concert in his honour.

The concert will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> June, in the North Kirk, Penicuik.

Past and present players will be performing a selection of Jack's all time favourite pieces of music.

We invite you to be part of this special evening, but remember - **DON'T TELL JACK - IT'S A SURPRISE!**

Tickets for the concert will soon be sent out to Friends of the Band.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AGM Friday 16 May

Brass Band Week  
23 May to 2 June

Installation Ceremony  
Thurs 29 May

Penicuik On Parade  
Sat 31 May

Social Evening  
Sat 14 June

Gorebridge Gala  
Sat 21 June

Winchburgh Gala  
Sat 28 June

HOLIDAY PERIOD  
Last rehearsal Fri 27 June  
Return Mon 14 July

Dalkeith BBQ  
Sat 2 August

Bridgend Gala (new gig)  
Sat 2 August

Brass in the Park  
Sat 30 August

National Finals, Harrogate  
27/28 September

Borders Entertainment  
Contest (Jedburgh)  
Sat 1 November

Scottish Championships  
(Dundee) 21/22 March 2009